

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: WINTER FY-13 STUDY OF THE UNITED STATES INSTITUTE ON NATIONAL SECURITY POLICYMAKING

Summary: This letter solicits candidate nominations from Nigerian Institutions for a Winter FY-13 Study of the United States Institute on National Security Policymaking. Pending ECA grant approval, the institute will take place at the Institute for Training and Development (ITD) in Amherst, Massachusetts from early February through late March 2013. **The strict deadline for candidate nominations to be received is before close of business (COB) Friday, October 19, 2012.** The subject line must read 2013 National Security Policymaking SUSI nomination. Please send your nominations to culturallagos@state.gov or culturalabuja@state.gov depending on your location.

PROGRAM DETAILS

1. The United States Mission to Nigeria is pleased to invite candidate nominations for the Winter FY-13 Study of the United States Institute on National Security Policymaking.

2. Institute Description: The Study of the United States Institute on U.S. National Security is a rigorous post-graduate-level academic seminar with integrated study tours that will provide a group of 18 educators and professionals an opportunity to deepen their understanding of the foundations of U.S. national security policy and current threats facing the U.S. The Institute focuses on the formulation of U.S. foreign and national security policy and the role of the federal government, think-tanks, media, and public opinion in shaping that policy. The program will examine specific security issues such as twenty-first century defense requirements, counter terrorism strategies, energy policy, economic stability, cyber security, chemical and biological weapons, nuclear weapons, and infectious diseases. The program will also focus on regional security concerns in Africa, Europe, South Asia, the Western Hemisphere, East Asia, and the Middle East. The program will be supplemented by a simulation exercise, a group project, and a study tour to another region of the United States.

The program's ultimate goal is to promote the development and improvement of courses and teaching about the U.S. at universities and other educational, training and research institutions abroad.

The host institution for this program will be the Institute for Training and Development in Amherst, Massachusetts. An overview of the 2013 program will be posted on the website below. Prospective applicants are encouraged to visit the website below to obtain general information about the previous year's institute at: http://www.itd-amherst.org/?p=national_security_institute

3. OTHER ESSENTIAL PROGRAM INFORMATION:

A. Program Funding: The U.S. Department of State will cover all participant costs, including: program administration, international travel, domestic travel and ground transportation, book, cultural, mailing and incidental allowances, housing and subsistence.

B. Housing and Meal Arrangements: Typically, participants will have a private room with a shared bathroom during the residency portion (four weeks) of the institute, and will have to share a hotel room during the study tour (up to two weeks). Housing will usually be in college or university owned housing. Most meals will be provided at campus facilities, though participants may have access to a kitchen to cook some meals on their own. Full details will be provided once the grant has been approved.

C. Health Insurance: All participants will receive the Department of State's coverage of \$50,000 with a \$25 deductible for the duration of the program. Pre-existing conditions are not covered.

D. Program Requirements and Restrictions: Participants are expected to participate fully in the program. They are expected to attend all lectures and organized activities, and complete assigned readings. Family members and/or friends cannot accompany participants on any part of the program. Please note that teaching methodology and pedagogical methods will not be addressed formally in the institute. Candidates should be made aware that the institute is very intensive and that there will be little time for personal pursuits unrelated to the program. The institute should not be viewed as a research program. It is important that all candidates understand these requirements and restrictions before nominations are submitted.

4. CANDIDATE DESCRIPTION AND QUALIFICATIONS:

A. Candidates should be mid-career, typically between the ages of 30-50, highly-motivated and experienced national security, university-level faculty or professionals from institutions of higher education, national security policymaking institutions, including national military academies, government ministries, and think-tanks. The ideal candidate will be a specialist in international relations or a related field. While the educational level of participants will likely vary, most should have graduate degrees and have substantial knowledge of foreign affairs.

B. The ideal candidate will also be an experienced professional with little or no prior experience in the United States, whose home institution is seeking to introduce aspects of U.S. studies into its curricula, to develop new courses in the subject of the institute, to enhance and update existing courses on the United States, or to offer specialized seminars/workshops for professionals in U.S. studies areas related to the program theme. In this respect, while the nominee's scholarly and professional

credentials are an important consideration, an equally important factor is how participation in the institute will enhance course offerings in U.S. studies at the nominee's home institution.

C. Candidates should be willing and able to participate fully in an intensive post-graduate level academic program and study tour. While senior faculty members are eligible applicants, we will give first consideration to younger and mid-career professionals, and to persons who are likely to be comfortable with campus life and an active program schedule.

5. Other Factors for Consideration: Please be advised that the Study of the United States Institutes are highly competitive. We recommend that Institutions prioritize their two nominations.

The following factors will be used in selecting participants from among the nominations. PAS would like to emphasize that the clarity with which Institutions address each of these factors strongly affects a candidate's chance of selection. Nominations will be reviewed by the Branch staff.

A. Institutions Justification: The justification statement is a critical portion of the nomination, as it offers the Institution the opportunity to provide specific reasons why the participation of a nominee is particularly desirable in terms of enhancing the study of the United States at the home institution, or more broadly, in the home country. In the Institution's view, for example, would the nomination serve to strengthen an already established faculty, or is it intended to give a boost to a fledgling program? Is the nominee a leader within his or her field who is in a unique position to have a significant and immediate impact on curricular development, or is the nominee a younger professional with exceptional promise whose participation is likely to result in a substantial benefit to their home institution in the long run? Institutions are strongly encouraged to describe the role that the nominee's home institution plays in the country's national security policymaking framework. Why, in short, does the nomination matter? The justification statement need not be especially lengthy, but it should address these and other relevant issues noted in paragraph 6-R below.

B. Candidate Statement: In order to get a better sense of potential participants' motivations and goals, we request that each candidate provide a personal statement (at least one page) indicating why he or she is interested in participating in the program and what he or she expects to get out of the experience.

C. English Language Ability: It is imperative that all candidates demonstrate English language fluency. Institutes are rigorous and demanding programs; participants will be expected to handle substantial reading assignments in English and to be full and active participants in all seminar and panel discussions. English fluency is vital to a successful experience in the Institute, both for your participant and participants from other countries.

D. Priority Consideration: Priority will be given to candidates who have firm plans to enhance, update or develop courses and/or educational materials with a U.S. studies focus or component, who have limited experience in the United States, and who have special interest in the program subject areas as demonstrated through past scholarship, accomplishments, and professional duties. In addition, we make every effort to have both a geographic and gender balance in the makeup of the participants in the Institute.

6. Nomination Format: Please submit candidate nominations by email by COB Friday, October 19, 2012. The email nomination should be in a MS-word format, not scanned. The font type should be Times New Roman. The font size should be 12 point. Please use single line spacing.

Please note that we will only accept nominations submitted electronically by email. Hard-copy applications will not be accepted. Nominations must follow the format below. It is essential that items A-F are included and completely accurate.

A. Nominee's Full Name, exactly as it appears on his/her passport. Clearly identify what the nominee's first, middle and surnames are as they appear on his/her passport.

B. Date of Birth (please spell out Month, Day, Year)

C. City of Birth

D. Country of Birth

E. Country of Residence

F. Country (ies) of Citizenship

G. Home Address, Telephone and E-mail

H. Gender

I. Medical, Physical, Dietary or other Personal

Considerations: Please state if the candidate has any existing medical conditions or is currently taking any prescription medication. This will not affect candidate selection, but will enable the host institution to make any necessary accommodations.

J. Current Position and Title

K. Current Institutional Affiliation and complete address

L. Work Experience, including previous positions and titles

M. Education, Academic and Professional Training, including degree earned and fields of specialization

N. Active Professional Memberships

O. Publications (please do not list any more than 10)

P. Previous Experience in the United States: Please list any and all trips the candidate has made to the United States and include approximate dates and the reason for travel.

Q. Family Residing in the United States: Please list any immediate family members who are currently residing in the United States, including city and state.

R. Evidence of English Fluency (e.g. personal interview, test score, etc.)

S. Statement by Institution justifying participation of nominee in the Institute:

- (1) Current or projected extent of the U.S. Studies content of the course(s) and materials being taught or developed by the candidate;
- (2) Likely relevance of the program to the professional responsibilities of the candidate;
- (3) The potential impact of the candidate's participation on a greater understanding of American society and/or culture at his/her home institution (in terms of enhanced teaching and curricula, etc.); AND
- (4) The relevance of the candidate's participation in the Institute to the Institution long-term U.S. studies Goals.

T. Personal Statement (no more than one page)

U. Institution's Officer (the person whom we should contact with all inquiries about the nomination): Name, Complete Mailing Address, E-mail & Telephone.

7. Action Requested: Institutions are invited to submit TWO candidate nominations for this institute. Nomination emails should be submitted to Program Officers at culturallagos@state.gov or at culturalabuja@state.gov depending on your location no later than **COB Friday, October 19, 2012**. Interviews will be conducted in late October 2012. Nominations should be submitted in the format provided in paragraph 6 above.

8. All communications and questions regarding the FY-13 Study of the United States Institute on National Security should be addressed to **Chinenye Uwadileke** at culturallagos@state.gov or **James Moolom** at culturalabuja@state.gov.

9. We look forward to receiving your nominations. Thank you.